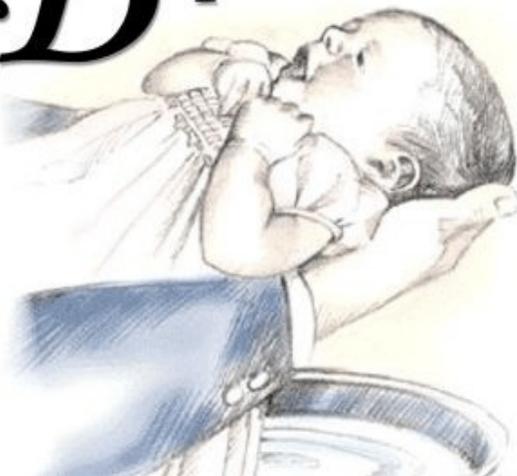


Baptism



Melville United Church

St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781

Team Ministry

Interim Minister:	Valerie Pitt
Youth Ministry Leader:	Jennifer Auger
Director of Music:	Matthias Schmidt
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	Ralph Rainford
Pastoral Care:	Millie Cumming, Elizabeth Stinson
Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain	Alison Rainford
Secretary's Office hours:	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T., T. & F.
E-Mail:	secretary@melvilleunited.com
Web Site:	www.melvilleunited.com

Nov 17, 2013 Blessing of the Children

Welcome to Melville United Church

Nov 17, 2013 Blessing of the Children

MINISTERS: The People of the Congregation

*You are invited to stand in body and/or in spirit.

Our Mission

We seek, we pray, we act knowing that Jesus is amongst us.

Our Vision

Knowing we are not alone on our spiritual journeys, Melville United Church seeks to be an open, compassionate and inclusive Christian community; honouring and serving the living Christ in all that we do.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE: Improvisation

Time of Quieting and Lighting of Candles

One: We light this candle to remind us of the presence of God.

All: May the light of peace and love surround us.

Introit: MV 16 Come and Fill Our Hearts

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!

Copyright "All rights reserved," "CCLI 1576520"

Call to Worship

One: This is the day that God has made.

All: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

One: This is the world that God has made.

All: We will rejoice and take care of it!

One: We are the children that God has made.

All: Let us worship God as one!

Opening Hymn: Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Opening Prayer: Body Prayer

You are invited to participate in this prayer,

first as it is explained, and then silently with no explanation.

Plant your feet firmly on the ground. Remember that you are rooted and connected to all of God's creation.

Place your palms together in front of you. Remember that worship involves all of our being-the right and left parts of our brains.

Bow to the earth, honouring the source of all life.

Raise both hands over your head and open your palms upward. Consider all of the wonders and the vastness of the universe, and be open to the blessing of God.

Bring your arms down and out to form a circle in front of you. Remember that you are connected to all of the world's people and all of the joys and the struggles of humankind.

Bring your arms in and cross over the chest to give yourself a hug. Remember that you are loved, as wondrous, unique creations of God.

Open arms wide with your palms extended and turn to face those around you, offering a blessing of peace to all who are gathered.

Place your palms together in front of you and bow again to the earth.

Raise and clap your hands as a reminder to stay aware and open to God's presence in and around us.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Baptism Hymn: VU 445 A Little Child the Saviour Came

Sacrament of Baptism *(see insert)*

We welcome: Rachel May Murphy

- daughter of Marsha and Ken Murphy, sister of Melissa and Emily

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 43:1-8,

Mark 10:13-16 *(paraphrase from Spark Story Bible)*

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

All: Thanks be to God

Reader: Megan Smith

Songs: Kumbaya, This Little Light of Mine, I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy

Activity - Blessing of the Children

Discussion

Hymn: VU 224 Sing a Happy Halleluiah

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering

Anthem: Do Not Be Afraid For You Are Mine - L. Larson

Offering Response VU 537 Your Work, O God (in unison)

**Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.**

OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

Holy God we pray that these gifts may enable the life of this congregation and may bless the lives of many in the world. We pray in the name of love and hope. Amen.

Joys and Concern

Nov. 17, 2013

4

Prayers of the People, Prayer of Jesus

Loving God, We find these joys to be self-evident:

All children, around and within us, are created whole, blessed with innate intelligence, dignity and wonder, worthy of respect.

The picture of life, liberty and happiness, children are original blessings, here to learn their own song. Every girl and boy is entitled to love, to dream and belong to a loving village. And to pursue a life of purpose.

We affirm our duty to nourish and nurture children, around and within us, to honour their caring ideals as the heart of being human. To cherish their contributions to human evolution.

We commit ourselves to peaceful ways and vow to keep from harm or neglect these, our most vulnerable citizens. As guardians of their prosperity we honour the bountiful Earth whose diversity sustains us.

Thus, with the words Jesus taught us, we pledge our love for generations to come. Our Father...

(prayer adapted from A Covenant for Honouring Children, by Raffi)

CLOSING HYMN: VU 697 O for A World

SENDING AND BLESSING

May God's joy be in your heart and God's love surround your living.

Each day and night and wherever you roam,

may you know God's presence.

In growing and learning, in joy and sorrow, in friendship, in solitude,

In beginnings and endings,

may God keep you and bless you all the days of your life.

Choral Closing: One I Love

One in Love, One in friendship true

One in hope, One in Spirit too,

One in faith that God will care for you

'Til we meet together again.

POSTLUDE: Rigardion - A. Campra

OUR WORSHIP ENDS - OUR SERVICE BEGINS

Partners in Prayer: St. James' Anglican Church, Fergus

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Dublin Street, Guelph

Nov. 17, 2013

5

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Mary Hume, Isobel Glennie,
Bob Zirk, Karen Smillie

Counters: Ruth Sproule (C), Helen Lacroix
Claude Lacroix

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nov. 17, 2013

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, welcome! Please sign our Guest Book at the back of the church or in the entranceway.

We thank Rev. John Markvart for being part in our service this morning.

Joint Search Committee meeting Thurs., Nov. 21, 2013 at 8 p.m. in the chapel.

Thank you to all that attended our "Hot Dog Day" on Nov. 3. We were able to donate \$308.25 to the Steven Lewis Foundation. Also, a big thanks to the crew that turned up to serve and clean up. Mission and Outreach Committee.

Val will be away from November 11 - 25 to be part of a United Church immersion experience in Palestine-Israel. Rev Kate Gregory at 519-843-1277 and Greg Smith-Young at 519-846-0122 are on call for emergency pastoral care along with our pastoral care ministry team.

Christmas Cantata. The choir will perform an easy Christmas Cantata on Advent 4th (Dec. 22nd) If you like to join the choir for that please come out on Thursday Nights for our Choir practice starting October 24th at 7pm. Hope to see you then. Please contact Matthias Schmidt for any questions.

Have you ever been to the Kitchener Christmas market? Well, if you liked that then come and celebrate St Nicholas Day at our own DIY Christ Kindle Market! Friday Dec. 6th. Potluck at 5:30 p.m., followed by DIY Bazaar booths, storytelling and puppet show, music from The Band, and more! For all ages.

CW Food Bank Christmas Hamper program has begun!! Melville has been asked to contribute 300 cereal boxes....healthier choices please. These items need to be collected by December 8th to allow time to deliver to the Sportsplex to be included in the hampers. The food bank is also looking for a few volunteers to help with the distribution of the hampers... if you would like to help in this manner, please speak to Mary Lloyd for more details.

From Pastoral Care - Every year the Pastoral Care Committee sends a Christmas card with a Tim Horton's gift card enclosed to our university students away at school. If you would like to donate to help with this cause, please see Doreen Ecclestone after church.

2014 United Church calendars are in. If you are interested in purchasing one, please see Doreen after church. A reminder that Mission and Outreach's Hot Dog lunch in December is in support of the Pastoral Care shut-in bags which will include calendars for our shut-ins.. Please plan to attend this lunch.

The Fall Garage Sale was a success! Thank you to all who donated, worked at the event, lugged boxes down and up, and packed up boxes. We made \$1,850 and had a good time! Fun, Funds and Fellowship committee.

From the Melville Library:

This has been a rainy fall -perfect weather for sitting cozily inside, enjoying a good book. We have lots of good books in our church library, with many more soon to be available. Do come in and browse our selection.

Melville Book Group

We are still looking for the book "The Namesake". If you find it, please return it to our church library, or give it to Helen, Val or Gerri. Our current book is "The Thirteenth Tale". If you wish to read it, sign it out on the sheet in the church library. For those who are available for the discussion, we are meeting in our library Nov. 17, after church. Unfortunately, we have a timing conflict, and the book must be returned to our church library by this Tuesday, Nov. 12. We apologize for this short time-line.

UCW Unit Joy meeting 3rd Tuesday of the month, Nov. 19, in the parlour at 7:30pm hosted by Marg Shortt and Alison Rainford. Come join our group. For information call Marg 519=843-3274.

The Grandmothers of the Grand would like you to join with us for a "Crepe Experience". This will be held Sunday Dec. 1 on World Aids Day, at Cafe Creperie - 40 Mill St. W. in Elora. There will be two seatings 12:30pm and 1:30pm and reservations can be made by calling the Café Creperie at 519-846-1618. We appreciate this generous partnership with Cafe Creperie and a portion of the evening will go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support the Grandmothers and the Orphans that they care for in Africa whose lives have been so affected by HIV/AIDS. Come join with us for a wonderful luncheon of wonderful food and friendship. Choose your own crepe from the "Café Creperie" menu and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Grandmothers of the Grand. For more information call Elly 519-843-1528

The Joint Search Committee has completed three extensive interviews and has selected two candidates to visit at their church for a Sunday worship. These visits will be completed by the end of November.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Nov. 18 to Sun. Nov. 24 , 2013

Tues. 19	9:00	Quilting	Heritage Hall
	7:30	Unit Joy	Parlour
Wed. 20	7:00	Transition Team	Chapel
Thurs. 21	7:00	Choir	Parlour
	8:00	Joint Search Committee	Chapel
Fri. 22	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
	11:00	Meditation	Library
Sun. 24	9:30	Choir	Choir Room
	10.30	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
	7:00	Movie Night	Sanctuary

Children's Sunday

The 1994 General Council made the decision that Children's Sunday should be celebrated annually across the church on a Sunday close to November 20. The date was chosen to tie in with National Child Day designated by the Canadian government in 1993 (www.canadiancrc.com/National_Child_Day.htm). November 20 is also the anniversary of the United Nations ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). Children's Sunday provides congregations an opportunity to:

- pause and reflect on the needs, concerns, interests, and skills of children in their own community
- pause and reflect on the quality of life for all children living in Canada
- pause and reflect on the quality of life for all the world's children

The Body Means Well: Preparing for Advent

December is such a crazy time and we wanted to create a space where we could prepare to enter the hectic nature of the season in a mindful and intentional way, through meditation, felting and exploring our dreams.

Facilitating the morning session will be Nancy Leach, MAT, M.Sc., author of *The Body Means Well: Empowered Healing*. Nancy is a skilled meditation teacher who has worked in private practice for over 25 years as well as working as Program Director at HopeSpring Cancer Support Centre for close to a decade.

The afternoon session will be divided into two groups. Valerie Pitt and Elaine Graham, both Spiritual Directors, will help us to explore our dreams with a curious spirit and an open heart. This will help us to gain insight into the messages of our unconscious.

The second afternoon session will be led by Cindo Peterson on the art of felting. The physical act of felting can create a space where the mind can relax and open the self into creativity and Spirit. Felting can teach us to manage stress, while making beautiful art.

Date: Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Venue: Bloomingdale United Church, 860 Sawmill Road, Bloomingdale, Ontario.

Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm. Arrive any time after 8:30am to get coffee or tea and settle in.

Cost: \$50.00. Please inquire as to our sliding scale, if needed.

There is lots of parking available at the church. The venue is also wheelchair accessible.

If you are interested, please contact Jules Morgan at juleseileenmorgan@gmail.com or 519 745 0099 to register. With your registration, please include information pertaining to any food allergies or mobility issues.